

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-04

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APPROVED BY: NEA/ ARN: DAKORN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046751

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BIEIRUT, BONN, THE HAGUE,
LONDON, MADRID, PARIS, STOCKHOLM, TEL AVIV, TEHRAN, GENEVA, USUN
FROM ROME MAR 13 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 1989

DEPT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

REF: ROME 1523

1. ON MARCH 12, RESPONSIBLE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL
CONVEYED TO US SUBSTANCE OF MARCH 10 TELEGRAM FROM ITALIAN EMBASSY
DAMASCUS REPORTING ISSUANCE OF STATEMENT ON MARCH 7 BY IRAQI
EMBASSY DAMASCUS ON IRAQI JEWS.

2. ACCORDING ITALIAN MESSAGE STATEMENT MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) NO IRAQI JEW HAS BEEN DETAINED OR CONDEMNED TO DEATH; B)
IRAQI JEWS HAVE SAME RIGHTS AS ANY OTHER IRAQI CITIZEN; C)
PUBLICATION IN ZIONIST PRESS OF NAMES OF IRAQI JEWS ALLEGEDLY
DETAINED ARE IN FACT NAMES OF IRAQI JEWS WHO HAVE DEPARTED IRAQI
ILLEGALLY FOR IRAN; D) ALL RECENT PUBLICITY RE SITUATION OF IRAQI
JEWS IS ZIONIST PROPAGANDA DESIGNED TO DISCREDIT THE GOVERNMENT
OF IRAQ.

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3. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL REMARKED THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THIS WAS FIRST OFFICIAL IRAQI STATEMENT WHICH CLAIMED THAT ALLEGEDLY DETAINED IRAQI JEWS HAD FLED TO IRAN.

4. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, OFFICIAL SAID IRAQI STATEMENT AS REPORTED BY ITALIAN EMBASSY DAMASCUS DID NOT RPT NOT MENTION NAMES OF JEWS WHOM IRAQIS SAY HAVE FLED TO IRAN. VOLPE

UNQUOTE
ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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